

as though varnished, and this I believe is due to the nature of the epidermis, and is not artificial." In *orthodon* the surface is not at all glossy when dry.

Along with this species were collected the following echinoderms:—*Astropecten vappa inæqualis*, Fisher; *Linckia lævigata* (Linn.); *Ophiothrix stelligera*, Lyman; *Ophiarachnella infernalis* (M. & T.); *Ophiactis savignyi* (M. & T.); *Polycheira rufescens* (Brandt).

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE X.

Fig. 1. *Asterina orthodon*, abactinal aspect.  $\times 3.5$ .

Fig. 2. The same, actinal surface.  $\times 3.5$ .

#### XLVII.—A new Family of Hymenoptera from South Africa.

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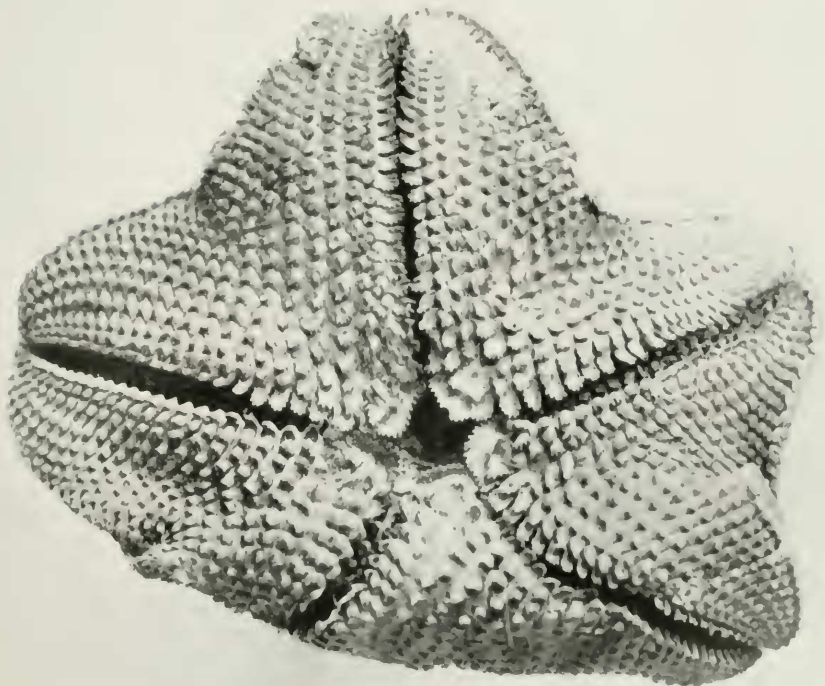
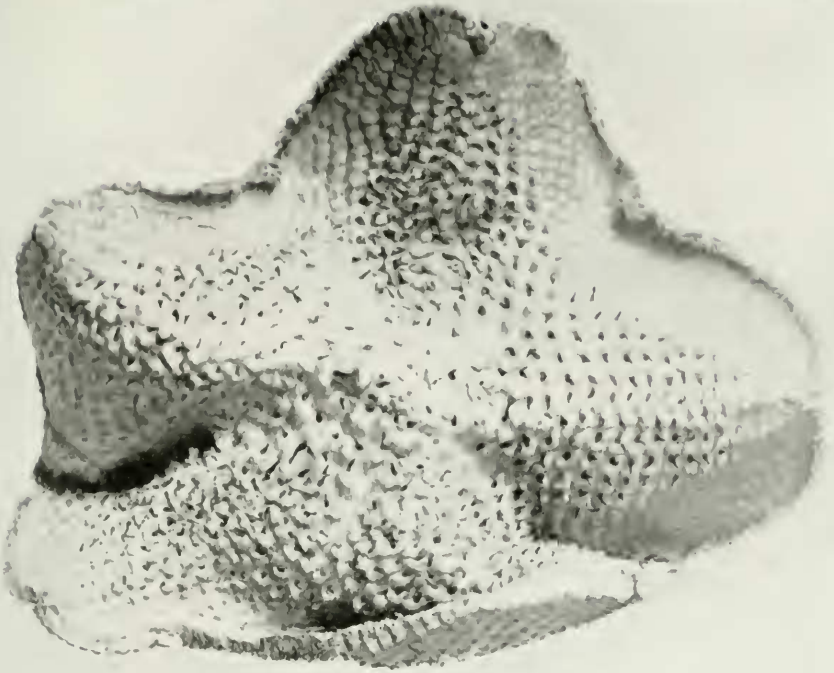
[Plate XI.]

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AMONGST the large collection of Hymenoptera made by Mr. Rowland E. Turner during the past two years in South Africa, and by him generously presented to the British Museum, is a unique ♀ whose structure is so unusual that it seems necessary to create a new family for its reception. That the insect in question is parasitic seems probable, but the combination of characters which it exhibits is so remarkable as to preclude placing it in any of the presently recognised divisions of the order. Its only affinities apparently are with the Australian Megalyridæ.

#### Dinapsidæ, fam. nov.

Neuration as follows:—Fore wing, median vein (cubitus) entirely wanting; 1st transverse and basal veins coincident, *i. e.* the nervulus interstitial. Costa and subcosta enclosing a large cell, stigma small, cubital vein rising from the middle of the basal, well developed, but not reaching the outer margin. The following cells are present: a costal, radial, and, at least, one cubital. The subcostal and median cells are confluent. Hind wings with the neuration much reduced, only the subcosta and the basal stump of the radius being present. The subcostal cell is very narrow. Propodeon flat,



ASTERINA ORTHODON.

